

III. REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the objectionable phrase is in claim 11 and not in claim 12 as stated by the Examiner. In any event it has been changed to more limiting terminology as requested by the Examiner. It is therefore submitted that claim 11 now conforms to 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph.

Chen discloses a method for reducing a synchronization delay between a header compressor and a header decompressor when transmission interruptions, e.g., a handover, occur in wireless communication. When a transmission interruption takes place and some transmitted data is dropped, the header data is buffered and then re-transmitted on an additional, i.e., non-traffic, channel to the mobile station MS. The data sent via a traffic channel and the re-transmitted data from the non-traffic channel are reassembled before inputting into the decompressor (col. 5, line 50 - col. 6, line 8, and the following examples).

Consequently, the idea of Chen is quite different from the invention of the present application. Chen does not even mention the use of context information, much less any method of updating context information between the header compressor and the header decompressor as recited in claims 1 and 12. The synchronization process in Chen requires that full headers are transmitted/re-transmitted from the compressor to the decompressor. Thus, Chen resembles very much the background problem described in the present application (p. 3, lines 3 - 10).

Since Chen lacks these features, the rejection of claims 1-21 under 35 USC 102 on Chen should be withdrawn.

Further, it is pointed out that a skilled man is confronted with a problem of how to ensure that the out-of-synchronism of the contexts is prevented in every case such that the old network entity, the new network entity and the mobile terminal operate with same, up-to-date context information during the relocation procedure.

There is no indication in Chen pointing towards a solution, wherein the context information updating is first stopped in the mobile terminal and in the first network entity, a snapshot is then taken of the old compressor and the decompressor context information and delivered to the new network entity. This way, both the mobile terminal and the old network entity are first disabled from sending any acknowledgements to the opposite side, whereby updating of contexts no longer happens, and only after this, the snapshot is taken by old network entity and it is transmitted to the new network entity. This implementation is further illustrated in the description (p. 11, line 7 - p. 12, line 3).

Chen is completely silent about the problems relating to order of the above-mentioned phases. On the contrary, Chen teaches to retransmit full header data in order to resynchronise the compressor and the decompressor, resulting in transmission of remarkable overhead in the resynchronization process. Thus, a person skilled in the art, when trying to solve the above stated problem according to the teaching of Chen would have acquired no information relating to context information updating.

Hence claims 1-21 are unobvious over Chen.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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